

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A rocker-recliner chair comprising:
 - a rocker mechanism;
 - a reclining linkage mechanism attached to the rocker mechanism;
 - a chair frame having a seat, backrest, armrests and a footrest operably attached to the reclining linkage mechanism;
 - wherein the rocker mechanism comprises an upper plate assembly having a pair of side flanges and an upper support plate extending between and connecting to the side flanges;
 - a base having a pair of side rails and a lower support plate extending between the side rails, the base having a cam engaging horizontal surface;
 - a pair of rocker cams attached to each side flange, one cam rockingly engaged to each side rail; and
 - two pairs of springs, each spring attached to the lower support plate and the upper support plate.
2. The rocker-recliner chair of claim 1 wherein each spring is attached directly to both the upper support plate and the lower support plate.
3. The rocker-recliner chair of claim 2 wherein each spring is attached directly to the upper support plate and the lower support plate by attachment means integral with the upper support plate and integral with the lower support plate respectively.

4. The rocker-recliner chair of claim 2 wherein the each spring is directly attached to the upper support plate by a tab and a nub formed in the upper support plate.
5. The rocker-recliner chair of claim 1 wherein the upper support plate is formed by punching plate stock.
6. The rocker-recliner chair of claim 5 wherein the lower support plate is formed by punching plate stock.
7. The rocker-recliner chair of claim 1 wherein each of the upper flanges is L-shaped with a lower horizontal portion and wherein said lower horizontal portion is sandwiched between the upper support plate and the respective rocker blocker.
8. The rocker-recliner chair of claim 1, further comprising a rocker blocker assembly operably attached to the reclining linkage mechanism.
9. The rocker-recliner chair of claim 1, wherein the upper support plate has a width and a depth and is configured as a tray with upraised lip portions extending the width of the upper support plate.
10. The rocker-recliner chair of claim 9, wherein the upper support plate has an offset rib formed therein by deformation of the plate, the rib extending at least substantially the width of the upper support plate.

11. The rocker-recliner chair of claim 1, wherein the lower support plate has a width and a depth and is configured as a tray with raised lip portions extending the width of the lower support plate.

12. The rocker-recliner chair of claim 1, wherein the upper support plate assembly has a periphery and is configured as a tray with a lip extending around the periphery of the tray.

13. The rocker-recliner chair of claim 1, wherein the upper support plate and the lower support plate each have a width and a depth and each have a central hole with the respective central hole extending at least the majority of the distance of the depth and the majority of the distance of the width.

14. A rocker mechanism having a left side, a right side, a back and a front, the mechanism comprising;

an upper support plate assembly having a pair of side flanges positioned at the left side and the right side, and a support plate extending between and integrally connected to the pair of side flanges;

a base having floor engaging feet and a lower support plate,

a pair of rocker cams positioned intermediate the base and the upper support plate assembly for providing a rocking motion to the upper support plate assembly with respect to the base,

a plurality of bias springs, each of said bias springs directly engaged with and attached to each of the upper support plate and the lower support plate, said bias springs

under tension and securing the upper support plate assembly to the base with the pair of rocker cams therebetween.

15. The rocker-recliner chair of claim 14, wherein each spring is attached directly to the upper support plate and the lower support plate by attachment means integral with the upper support plate and integral with the lower support plate respectively

16. The rocker-recliner chair of claim 14 wherein the each spring is directly attached to the upper support plate by a tab and a nub formed in the upper support plate and wherein each spring is directly attached to the lower support plate by a tab and nub formed in said lower support plate.

17. The rocker-recliner chair of claim 14, wherein the upper support plate has a width and a depth and is configured as a tray with raised lip portions extending the width of the upper support plate, and wherein the lower support plate has a width and a depth and is configured as a tray with raised lip portions extending the width of the lower support plate.

18. A method of manufacturing a rocker mechanism comprising the steps of;

- fabricating a lower support plate from plate stock;
- securing the lower support plate integrally to two floor engaging side rails thereby forming a base;
- fabricating an upper support plate from a plate stock;
- securing the upper support plate to two L-shaped side flanges;

attaching a rocker cam to the lower side of the upper support plate at each side flange; and

securing a plurality of bias springs to the upper support plate and to the lower support plate engaging the rocker cams attached to the upper support plate to the base.

19. The method of claim 18 further comprising the step of forming central holes in each of the upper support plate and lower support plate and providing elongate bent tabs on each of the upper support plate and lower support plate for providing rigidity.

20. A rocker-recliner chair comprising:

a rocker mechanism;

a reclining linkage mechanism attached to the rocker mechanism;

a rocker blocker assembly operably attached to the reclining linkage mechanism;

a chair frame having a seat, backrest, armrests and a footrest operably attached to the reclining linkage mechanism;

wherein the rocker mechanism comprises an upper plate assembly having a pair of side flanges and a support plate extending between and connecting to the side flanges, the support plate configured as a tray with raised peripheral lip and a centrally positioned hole;

a base having a pair of side rails and a lower support plate extending between the side rails, the lower support plate configured as a tray with raised peripheral lip and a centrally positioned hole, the base having a cam engaging horizontal surface;

a pair of rocker cams attached to each side flange, one cam rockingly engaged to each side rail; and

two pairs of springs, each spring directly engaging and attached to the lower support plate and the upper support plate.